A Service of Prayer & Thanksgiving





Monday 4th November 2024, 12.30pm St George's Church, Edgbaston



Order of Service

Please take your seats by 12.25pm



Music plays as the ministers process to the front

Opening Sentence

'I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord. 'Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.' *John 11.25,26*

Words of Welcome

The Revd Dr Sam Gibson, Vicar of St George's

Opening Prayer

Eternal God, our maker and redeemer,
grant us with Caroline
and all the faithful departed
the sure benefits of your Son's saving passion
and glorious resurrection:
that, in the last day,
when you gather up all things in Christ,
we may with them enjoy
the fullness of your promises;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

First Hymn

The Saints of God

The saints of God are down our street and round God's throne of light. There's some with formidable minds and some in crafts delight; together in God's family their different gifts unite.

They serve at check-outs, empty bins they teach and make and mend; they feed the hungry back from school the victimised defend; to voiceless folk they lend an ear and immigrants befriend.

Their efforts gain no accolades, they simply earn that grace which heals this world of many sores, renews its battered face through such, who live and love and care in their own time and place.

When death comes knocking at their door they'll look at Christ askance how could such ordinary lives his kingdom ends advance?
But Christ will say, 'It's party time, come, friends, and join my dance.'

Ian M. Fraser 2004
Tune: Sheltered Dale

Remembering Caroline

Friends share memories from Caroline's life

Second Hymn

Brother, sister, let me serve you; let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey, and companions on the road; we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.



I will hold the Christlight for you in the night time of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you; I will share your joy and sorrow, till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony, born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you; let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

Bible Reading

Read by Jenny Uff, Reader at St George's

Eden Restored

A reading from the Book of Revelation.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

Revelation 22:1-5

Homily

The Revd Dr Sam Gibson, Vicar of St George's

Prayers

The Revd George Reeves, Curate of St George's



The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Third Hymn

Just as I am, without one plea, But that Thy blood was shed for me, And that Thou bid'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about With many a conflict, many a doubt; Fightings within, and fears without, O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, healing of the mind; Yea all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come.



Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, Thy love unknown Has broken every barrier down; Now, to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come.

The Commendation

Please stand as you are able

Caroline, go forth upon your journey from this world, in the name of God the Father Almighty who created you; in the name of Jesus Christ who suffered death for you; in the name of the Holy Spirit who strengthens you; in communion with the blessed saints, and aided by angels and archangels, and all the armies of the heavenly host.

May your portion this day be in peace, and your dwelling the heavenly Jerusalem.

Amen.

The Blessing



The ministers depart during the final hymn

Final Hymn

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want; He makes me lie in pastures green. He leads me by the still, still waters, His goodness restores my soul.

And I will trust in You alone, And I will trust in You alone, For Your endless mercy follows me, Your goodness will lead me home.

He guides my ways in righteousness, And He anoints my head with oil, And my cup, it overflows with joy, I feast on His pure delights.

And I will trust in You alone . . .

And though I walk the darkest path, I will not fear the evil one, For You are with me, and Your rod and staff Are the comfort I need to know.

And I will trust in You alone . . .

From Psalm 23
Stuart Townend 1996





The Committal is a private service. You are warmly invited to stay in church for refreshments and conversation.

A retiring collection will be taken in aid of the charity **Mind**



